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REMARKS

The above amendment with the following remarks is submitted to be fully responsive to the Office Action of November 15, 2007. Reconsideration of this application in light of the amendment and the allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. In response to the Office Action, claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 10, 13-15, 20, 26 and 27 are amended with claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20 and 26 being independent. Therefore, claims 1-31 are now pending in the present application and are believed to be in proper condition for allowance.

Claims 1-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kujirai (US 2006/0119892) in view of Weaver (US 6,694,115). The Office asserts that "[w]ith respect to claim 1, Kujirai discloses a system (Fig. 1) comprising: an access code system that embeds at least one access code (password) in a job stream, and a job transmission system that transmits the job stream to a device (page 1, paragraphs 0007-0008 and page 3, paragraph 0038). Kujirai does not disclose each embedded code permitting access to a subset of device features, but not to other device features of the device." The Office then states that "Weaver does disclose an access code (Identification Tag) permitting access to a subset of device features, but not to other device features of a printer device (col. 2, lines 4-13, col. 7, lines 15-30)." The Office states that "[t]he suggestion or motivation for [combining Kujirai with Weaver] would have been to 'provide some users with access to a printing device that exhibits a particular configuration, tile denying others such access' (Weaver: col. 1, lines 26-29)." Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Kujirai nor Weaver teaches an embedded code permitting access to a subset of device features, but <u>not</u> to other device features of the device, <u>wherein each embedded code is matched with an access code stored in memory and wherein the authorization of the subset of device features occurs if each identified access code embedded in the job stream matches each stored access code for the job</u>, as is disclosed in amended independent claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20 and 26. (See page, 5, paragraph 0045 of <u>published</u> application). As the Office has acknowledged, Kujirai does not disclose each embedded code permitting access to a subset of device features, but not to other device features of the device. Additionally, Applicants submit that Weaver does not disclose each embedded code permitting access to a subset of device features, but not to other device features of the device, wherein each embedded code is matched with an access code stored in memory and wherein the authorization

of the subset of device features occurs if each identified access code embedded in the job stream matches each stored access code for the job.

Instead, Weaver teaches a configuration-enabling system where a user has authorization to use a configuration of a printer (col. 7, lines 15-41). In Weaver, a user can configure a printer to use a feature, enabling the feature if it is not enabled. Alternatively, if the feature is unavailable on the printer, then the print process is halted. As in traditional printing technology, this configuration-enabling system allows a user to select a configuration on a printer and enable it if it is available.

By using an identification tag to determine a user's authorization, the system of Weaver allows or disallows a user from using a printer. If the user is authorized, then the user may enable a desired configuration as long as the configuration is available for the printer. By contrast, the matched embedded code of the present invention does not allow or disallow a user from using a printer, but instead controls the permissions to a subset of device features that a user has at a particular printer, including features such as duplex printing, color printing, etc. Because neither Kujirai nor Weaver teaches each and every limitation of independent claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20 and 26, specifically, an embedded code permitting access to a subset of device features, but not to other device features of the device, wherein each embedded code is matched with an access code stored in memory and wherein the authorization of the subset of device features occurs if each identified access code embedded in the job stream matches each stored access code for the job, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Kujirai nor Weaver renders claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20 and 26 obvious.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20 and 26. Since claims 2-5, 7-9, 11-13, 15-19, 21-25 and 27-31 depend from and contain the limitations of independent claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20 and 26, respectively, they are distinguishable over the cited reference and patentable in the same manner as claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20 and 26.

In view of all of the foregoing, applicant submits that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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